Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00552 011212Z

12

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 INR-07

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9870

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY 4288

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

COMSIXFLT PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 552

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PO, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO EXERCISE "LOCKED GATE"

REF: A. STATE 022603 (NOTAL)

B. LISBON 553

1. DURING AMBASSADOR BRUCE'S JANUARY 31 CALL ON SYG LUNS TO DISCUSS OTHER SUBJECTS, THE SYG RAISED THE SUBJECT OF PORTUGAL AND EXPRESSED HIS DEEP CONCERN WITH POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 00552 011212Z

THERE. BRUCE DREW ON REF A TO INDICATE WASHINGTON'S SERIOUS CONCERN WITH THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN PORTUGAL AND TO INFORM LUNS OF THE REPRESENTATIONS WE ARE MAKING AT VARIOUS CAPITALS IN EUROPE. BRUCE EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. REALIZES

THERE IS NO ROLE FOR NATO AT THIS TIME, BUT LUNS AS SYG WOULD WANT TO BE AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING.

2. LUNS THEN RAISED THE SUBJECT OF EXERCISE " LOCKED GATE" WHICH OBVIOUSLY HAD HIM SOMEWHAT UPSET. HE SAID IT HAD JUST COME TO HIS ATTENTION THAT SHORE LEAVE FOR THE CREWS OF THE 35 (SIC) NATO SHIPS INVOLVED HAD BEEN CANCELLED AND THIS, IN HIS VIEW, MADE THE ENTIRE EXERCISE POINTLESS. HE SAID THE GOOD WILL POTENTIAL OF THE VISIT WOULD THUS BE LOST AND THE ALLIANCE WOULD BE LEFT WITH ONLY THE POLITICAL DISADVANTAGES FOLLOWING FROM THE UNFORTUNATE TIMING OF THIS EXERCISE SCHEDULED OVER A YEAR AGO. IN FACT, LUNS SAID, HE DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS A SINGLE PERSON IN PORTUGAL WHO WOULD BELIEVE THIS EXERCISE WAS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A HASTILY ORGANIZED DIRECT ATTEMPT BY NATO TO INTERFERE IN PORTUGUESE INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE SAID HE WILL RAISE THIS MATTER WITH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AT THEIR REGULAR LUNCHEON ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

3. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS ON ANY POINTS DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH AMBASSADOR BRUCE TO MAKE WHEN THIS SUBJECT IS DISCUSSED ON FEBRUARY 4.
BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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To: STATE

SECDEF INFO LISBON

LONDON

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